HOUSE BILL 2228

By Bibb

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 67-4-409(I)(3), relative to the agricultural resources conservation fund.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Subsection 67-4-409(I), is amended by deleting the language in subdivision (I) (3) and substituting instead the following:

for the promotion and implementation of agricultural management practices that conserve and protect natural resources associated with agricultural production, including, but not limited to, soil, water, air, plants and animals. The commissioner of agriculture may spend up to five percent (5%) of the annual appropriations from this fund on education of landowners, producers and managers concerning conservation and protection practices. No more than ten percent (10%) of the annual appropriation from this fund may be used for management costs associated with technical assistance to accomplish the purposes of the fund and/or the administration of the fund. It is the intent of the general assembly that the highest priority of the agricultural resources conservation fund is to abate and prevent nonpoint source water pollution that may be associated with agricultural production. Therefore, the commissioner of agriculture may spend no more than fifteen percent (15%) of the annual appropriations from the fund for the combined purposes of preventing or remedying air, noise, dust, and odor pollution, or similar nuisance type environmental problems associated with agricultural production.

(3) Expenditures from the agricultural resources conservation fund shall be made

The commissioner of agriculture may expend agricultural resources conservation funds as matching dollars to secure additional funding to fulfill the purposes for which the fund was established.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring

it.